

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended): A guide apparatus, comprising: having

a track rail having ~~, on which~~ rolling-element raceway surfaces ~~[[are]]~~ formed along a longitudinal direction thereof, ~~[[and]]~~

a moving block attached to the track rail by way of a plurality of rolling elements in a relatively-movable manner, the moving block having

load rolling-element raceway surfaces forming load rolling-element raceway passages in conjunction with the rolling-element raceway surfaces,

a moving block main body in which rolling-element clearance holes corresponding to the load rolling-element raceway surfaces are formed, and

side covers attached to each end of the moving block main body with respect to the direction of relative movement, and wherein

an end-face dustproof brush ~~, which has a brush member whose tip end contacts a surface of the track rail and which eliminates extraneous matters adhering to the surface of the track rail by means of the brush member,~~ is attached to an outside of each of the side covers with respect to the direction of relative movement, the end-face dustproof brush having a plurality of brush members whose tip end contacts a surface of the track rail and which eliminates extraneous matters adhering to the surface of the track rail,

wherein the end-face dustproof brush has a casing and the plurality of brush members are provided in the casing while being separated from each other at a given interval with reference to the direction of relative movement, and

wherein, of the plurality of brush members of the end-face dust proof brush, brush wires of a brush member located outside with reference to the direction of relative movement have a larger wire diameter, a higher hardness, and a lower arrangement density than brush wires of a brush member located inside with reference to the direction of relative movement.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended): The guide apparatus according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 through 3~~, wherein each of the plurality of ~~[[the]]~~ brush members of the end-face dustproof brush conforms to a cross-sectional profile of the track rail, and each of the plurality of brush members ~~member~~ is formed from a plurality of split brush bodies so that tip ends of the brush bodies can contact the surface of the track rail ~~without fail~~.

5. (Currently Amended): ~~The guide apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 3~~, A guide apparatus, comprising:

a track rail having rolling-element raceway surfaces formed along a longitudinal direction thereof,

a moving block attached to the track rail by way of a plurality of rolling elements in a relatively-movable manner, the moving block having

load rolling-element raceway surfaces forming load rolling-element raceway passages in conjunction with the rolling-element raceway surfaces,

a moving block main body in which rolling-element clearance holes corresponding to the load rolling-element raceway surfaces are formed, and

side covers attached to each end of the moving block main body with respect to the direction of relative movement, and

an end-face dustproof brush attached to an outside of each of the side covers with respect to the direction of relative movement, the end-face dustproof brush having a plurality of brush members whose tip end contacts a surface of the track rail and which eliminates extraneous matters adhering to the surface of the track rail,

wherein an accessory member ~~, such as another seal member,~~ is provided between the end-face dustproof brush and the side cover.

6. (Currently Amended): ~~The guide apparatus according to any one of claims 1 through 3,~~ A guide apparatus, comprising:

a track rail having rolling-element raceway surfaces formed along a longitudinal direction thereof,

a moving block attached to the track rail by way of a plurality of rolling elements in a relatively-movable manner, the moving block having

load rolling-element raceway surfaces forming load rolling-element raceway passages in conjunction with the rolling-element raceway surfaces,
a moving block main body in which rolling-element clearance holes corresponding to the load rolling-element raceway surfaces are formed, and
side covers attached to each end of the moving block main body with respect to the direction of relative movement, and
an end-face dustproof brush attached to an outside of each of the side covers with respect to the direction of relative movement, the end-face dustproof brush having a plurality of brush members whose tip end contacts a surface of the track rail and which eliminates extraneous matters adhering to the surface of the track rail,

wherein the moving block main body is provided with a side dustproof brush whose tip ends contact a longitudinal side surface of the track rail and which closes clearance between the side surface of the track rail and a longitudinal inner side surface of the moving block.

7. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the accessory member is another seal member.

8. (New): The guide apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a first part of said end-face dustproof brush is substantially orthogonal to a second part of said end-face dustproof brush.

9. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each of said plurality of brush members includes:

a first split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a upper surface of the track rail;

a second split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a first side surface of the track rail; and

a third split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a second side surface of the track rail.

10. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a first part of said end-face dustproof brush is substantially orthogonal to a second part of said end-face dustproof brush.

11. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the plurality of split brush members includes:

a first split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a upper surface of the track rail;

a second split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a first side surface of the track rail; and

a third split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a second side surface of the track rail.

12. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 5, wherein a first part of said end-face dustproof brush is substantially orthogonal to a second part of said end-face dustproof brush.

13. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 5, wherein each of said plurality of brush members includes:

a first split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a upper surface of the track rail;

a second split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a first side surface of the track rail; and

a third split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a second side surface of the track rail.

14. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a first part of said end-face dustproof brush is substantially orthogonal to a second part of said end-face dustproof brush.

15. (New) The guide apparatus according to claim 6, wherein each of said plurality of brush members includes:

a first split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a upper surface of the track rail;

a second split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a first side surface of the track rail; and

a third split brush member, tip ends of brush wires thereof contacting with a second side surface of the track rail.